

Eriogonum phoeniceum L. Shultz**SCARLET BUCKWHEAT**

FAMILY: *Polygonaceae*, the buckwheat family.

STATUS: **Heritage Program SENSITIVE LIST, ranks: G1 S1**
USFWS/ESA: none. **STATE OF NEVADA:** none. **BLM:** none. **USFS:** none. **NNNPS:** watch list.

POPULATION CENSUS (NEVADA): 2 occurrences mapped; total estimated individuals unknown, total estimated area unknown. **TREND:** unknown.

IMPACTS AND MAJOR THREATS (NEVADA): No summary available (see references).

INVENTORY EFFORT (NEVADA): One recent survey has been conducted, but many more are likely needed. Most recent entered survey 1987, average year of last survey 1983. **Years since last entered survey** (percent of mapped records at various survey ages): **11-20 yrs:** 50%; **21-30 yrs:** 50%.

LAND MANAGEMENT (NEVADA) in decreasing predominance: U. S. Bureau of Land Management, private lands.

RANGE: Lincoln County, Nevada; also in UT. Two populations in Mahogany Mountains of SE NV. Maximum Nevada range dimension 38.3 km (23.8 mi).

ELEVATIONS RECORDED (NEVADA): 6700-7200 feet (2042-2195 meters).

HABITAT (NEVADA): White tuffaceous knolls, bluffs, and rocky flats, openings in pinyon and juniper woodland, with *Artemisia tridentata*, *Purshia tridentata*, *Petradoria pumila*, etc.

PHENOLOGY: flowering late-spring to summer. Range of most frequent survey months: June-July.

LIFE-FORM AND HABIT: small semi-woody long-lived perennial cushion.

DESCRIPTION: Caespitose, densely branched suffrutescent perennial from a branched woody caudex, forming low hemispheric mounds. Lowermost stems gray to reddish brown, with bark exfoliating in irregular strips. Leaves light green, margins entire and revolute, blades appearing linear or narrowly elliptic, needlelike. Inflorescences cymose, congested, 2-3 times branched; branches light green, pubescent, becoming reddish brown and glabrate as they mature. Involucres solitary, green to reddish brown, narrowly turbinate with acute lobes, glabrous; flowers 4-6 per involucre, with 1-3 maturing into fruit. Tepals white with reddish-brown midrib, turning yellow to red-brown with maturity. Achenes red-brown, oblanceolate (Shultz 1998). **Distinguishing features:** Inflorescence branches glabrous to loosely arachnoid; stems reddish brown, glabrous to somewhat pubescent; leaf margins tightly revolute; plants mostly <1 dm high; intricately branched and compact; flowers white to red; leaf adaxial surface glabrous, appearing glossy from papilliform epidermal cells. Leaf: length 6-7(-8) mm, adaxial surface glabrous to sparsely villous; Petiole 1.0-1.5(-3.0)mm; Tepals length 2.0-2.5mm, apex blunt, slightly notched; Involucre 2.0-3.0 mm; Achenes 1.5-2.0 mm.

PHOTOGRAPHS: none known.

ILLUSTRATIONS: Shultz (1998).

SPECIFIC REFERENCES:

Shultz, L. M. 1998. A new species of *Eriogonum* (Polygonaceae: Eriogonoideae) from Utah and Nevada. Harvard Papers in Botany 3(1): 49-52.
